

NO. 240

TO-DAY'S NEWS.

BRANWELL BRONTE.

Poor, depraved, brilliant Branwell Bronte! In history or fiction, what name is there that calls forth sympathy, admiration and respect more than that of the gifted brother of the Bronte sisters? Though a bitter trial to them, he was, indirectly, the means of bringing their genius into life.

Had not the brother so wretchedly failed in fulfilling the exceptional promise of his youth, in all likelihood the world would never have benefited of the reading of "Jane Eyre," or "Shirley," or "The Professor," or "Wuthering Heights."

Like his sisters, he was small of body, but with a disproportionately large head covered with red hair, and a face much freckled, not beautiful, but witty, pensive and gifted. Indeed, so complex was his temperament, so varied and peculiar his moral organizations, it is difficult to regard him as wholly sane; the wild excesses of his later years, when he gave himself up to drink and the use of opium, strengthen if not altogether confirm this supposition.

This love, the idol of his sisters, grew up unrequited and without guidance from his father, who indeed, paid little or no attention to his children, further than to know they were alive and well, in a little, uninteresting village whose ideas and resources were as contracted as its streets, as primitively plain and unimproved its houses. Its only place of recreation was the village tavern; there Branwell contracted habits that blighted his sisters' lives, and his own, bringing him to a premature grave, and turned the peaceful paragon into a hell.

The limit of agony in which one person may involve his family is well high indeed, but it must have been fully reached in the Bronte household through Branwell. Genius without restraint, like runaway horses, generally ends in a snare, and thus it was with this highly imaginative youth, with his wonderful intuitive power of grasping an idea or a situation in its completeness that was astonishing.

When ever there happened to be a traveller staying over night at the Haworth Inn, it was the landlady's custom to send for "the vicar's Patrick," as he was called by the villagers, to come and entertain his guest through the long hours of the evening, by his brilliant wit and ready conversation.

At these meetings there was always a bowl of smoking punch to quicken the spirits of the company, which was never neglected by the unfortunate youth.

The following is told as an example of his accurate knowledge of places he had never visited:

One night, in conversation with a gentleman from London about the city, young Bronte mentioned the existence of an insignificant by street or alley by which one could make a short cut from one prominent part of the city to another; apparently so familiar was he with its location and characteristics, that the gentleman was greatly surprised to find that he had never visited the place, but derived his knowledge from books and conversations with travellers like himself. It is also said that he could write two letters at the same time, one with each hand, to different individuals on different subjects; be that as it may, his versatility was variation itself, and his literary ability of a high order, as is evinced by his earlier letters, especially an art poem when he was about seventeen to the poet Southey, asking advice as to the practicability of beginning a literary career.

He had also much ability as an artist, and it was his father's intention to send him to London for instruction, but he probably saw, when the time came, that Branwell could not be trusted in the great city where his wild habits would have opportunity for greater swing, for the boy was never sent.

It is not necessary to repeat here the story of his life, of his guilty love and wretched downfall; of those long days and nights of hopeless misery to himself, and his family, of his mind, ravaged and confused by fever, and the degradation into which he sank, lower, each day, until he died, a broken man, still more wretched, than he had been when he first began his career.

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"Papa," said Miss Wabash of Chicago, "I bought such a lovely parasol to-day and had it charged to you. It's a perfect poem."

"Is it?" said the old man. "What did the poem cost?"

"Eighteen dollars."

"Where! Couldn't you have got it cheaper?"

"No, the dealer wouldn't let go of it for a cent less."

"Yes," said Dunley, "I only see my landlady when he comes for the rent. He comes promptly the 1st of every month."

"And then you don't see him again till next month?"

"Oh, yes, I do. I see him often during the month."

"Then you know what?"

"What?"

"Well, I'm almost forgotten."

"What?"

"What?"

"What?"

"What?"

"What?"

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"What?"

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"What?"

"What?"

GENEROUS MINERS.

The Tellers of Montana Show that They are Not Desperadoes.

The traffic manager of the Northern Pacific road told me a fine story characteristic of those big-hearted miners. Mr. Davis had taken his aged father and mother up into the heights of one of the mountains that shadow the route. It was fifteen miles distant. While they were camping there a snow storm swept upon them, and the sudden change caused Mr. Davis's father to suffer from an attack of paralysis. The old gentleman was helpless and his son was perplexed. He was fifteen miles from civilization and had no conveyance to reach it. He happened to remember that not far away on the mountain side was a camp of miners. He walked to the camp and found them just sitting down after their meal to a game of cards. He apologized for intruding upon them and said: "Boys, I am in trouble." The cards fell out of their hands and they were on their feet ready for his relief. He told them his story. "Well, stranger," said the leader, "we'll get the old man down the mountain safe and sound; but you'll have to get the old woman down the best you can, 'cause, you know, we ain't used to handling women, are we boys?" And at the mention of a woman's name the speaker's hard hand went up to his eyes, but in a second he recovered and said to Mr. Davis: "You lead the way and we'll follow."

"They toiled up the mountain until they came to the hut where the old people were housed. At the sight of the lady the miners, seven of them, bunched themselves just as a lot of freight cars that come to a sudden halt. Every hat was off. Having made their bow they gathered about the old man and looked upon him, as they folded their hands as if he were dead. Then they wrapped him in blankets and picked him up and gently wound around the mountain, picking out the smooth places, never saying a word. Mr. Davis followed with his mother. When they reached the level and the old man had been laid upon his bed, Mr. Davis took the miners to one side and said: "Men, here is a roll of bills—all I have. Take it, no matter how much it may be."

The old miner who had done all the talking for the crowd took of his hat and spoke: "Why, we thought you knewed us."

"I do know you," said Davis.

"But we thought you knewed us well. No stranger, put her up why, wouldn't let that old man suffer up there a minute. Would we boys?" And they all raised their hats. "Easy, boys," said the speaker. And they shouted, but it was soft and low about, which brought tears to Davis's eyes.

FOR SALE.

A California Saddle, Genuine "Vesta" tree. Apply at this office. Calgary, Nov. 11, 1887.

NOTICE.

All Parties are hereby warned against depositing garbage or other filth on any portion of Sec. 15, C. P. R. A. T. R. W. T. RAMSAY, Townsite Trustee.

HAY FOR SALE.

Thirty-five tons of fine oat hay for sale by C. H. Chearning, Elbow River, two miles south of Calgary.

NOTICE.

—All accounts due—

DOCTOR HENDERSON

—Must be paid in or before—

1st DECEMBER

Next, otherwise they will be placed in local hands for collection.

F W. Pettit

SHELTON SHOWING

PARLOR AND PEASY CHAIRS

All kinds of furniture at rock bottom prices.

Largest Stock Territories

DONALD, B. C.

STANLEY & PEW. DRUGS AND STATIONERY.

MANUEL & RUTTAN,

General Dealers. DONALD, B. C.

S. FERLAND, General Merchant, Flour, Feed & Provisions.

HULL & TROUNCE. Wholesale and Retail MEAT MARKET.

J. C. STEEN & CO. General Merchants AND JOBBERS.

G. H. PRESSWELL, Post Office Store. General Merchandise

THE WOODBINE. "The Daisy of Them All" PAT MURPHY, PROPRIETOR.

SELKIRK HOUSE.

First-Class Accommodation

For Commercial Men & Tourists

Donald Billiard Hall.

Only place in town where you can get a

Collins or Cocktail.

ILLI-CILLI-WAET.

HOTEL.

Elegantly Refitted. Ed. & Will Lawler.

THE STAR SALOON.

GEO. SUTHERLAND, Proprietor.

Cocktails & Collins Finer than the Finest

WOODS & MCBRIDE,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

General Merchandise

Wood Yard.

GOOD DRY WOOD

For sale, Cut to suit purchasers, and delivered to any place in town at reasonable rates.

Orders left at McDonald's Stable will be promptly attended to.

W. M. PARSLOW.

WANTED

A first-class Hardware Hand. None but experienced Men need apply.

A. GRANT

Calgary, Nov. 18, 1887

S J HOGG & CO,

AGENTS FOR

THE JANTHRACITE COAL CO. A. HARRIS SON AND CO Commission Agents for

LUMBER IN CAR LOTS. Anyone wanting lumber will find it to their advantage to purchase from

S. J. Hogg & Co'y.

CALGARY LUMBER COY

(LIMITED)

Manufacturers of and dealers in every description of

ROUGH AND DRESSED LUMBER Heavy Dimension a specialty. Newels, Mouldings, Base, etc.

WHITE :: PINE :: AND :: CEDAR For finishing purposes. Cedar shingles, lath, sash and doors.

Dry - Fire - Wood!

OFFICE & YARD: Atlantic Ave., West.

NORTHWEST GOVERNMENT.

The New Form Asked For by the Council.

The Northwest Council memorial on a new form of government for the Territories reads as follows:

"The memorial of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories in Council to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, humbly sheweth that the present method of introducing legislation into the Northwest Council has been proved by a number of years' experience to be unsatisfactory and leads to an ill-considered and inconsistent body of legislation.

"And further, that the method of dealing with the public funds at present in force is one which excludes the people of the country from any control in their disposal.

"And that it is considered by this Council that the time has arrived to remove these difficulties.

"Now, therefore, your petitioners pray: That at the next session of the Dominion Parliament legislation be introduced—

"First, to amend the constitution of the Northwest Council as hereinafter set forth.

"Second, to add the powers heretofore mentioned to those already possessed by the Northwest Council.

CONSTITUTION.

"Your petitioners pray—

(a) That the system of having appointed members in the Northwest Council be abolished, and that the council hereinafter be purely elective and in the first instance to consist of twenty-five members to be elected for the electoral divisions set forth in the schedule hereto.

(b) That the members of the council be elected for a term of four years, and not for two years as at present.

(c) That the qualifications of a voter in elections for the Northwest Council be, that he is a male British subject, not an emancipated Indian, 21 years of age, and who has resided for six months before the election in the electoral division in which he votes.

(d) That the council be presided over by one of their number.

(e) That the Lieutenant-Governor carry on his executive functions by and with the advice of an executive council of three who shall be from time to time chosen and named by the Lieut.-Governor and sworn in as Privy Counsellors, and who shall hold seats in the Northwest Council.

ADDITIONAL POWERS.

"Your petitioners pray. That the following provisions of the British North America Act, respecting the Parliament of Canada, namely: The provisions relating to appropriation and tax bills, the recommendation of money votes, the assent of bills, the disallowance of acts, and the signature of pleasure on bills reserved—being sections 53, 54, 55 and 56, of the B. N. A. Act, shall extend and be made applicable in terms to the Northwest Council, with the substitution of Lieutenant-Governor for the Governor-General, and of the Governor-General for the Queen and for a Secretary of State, and of one year for two years, and of the Northwest Territories for Canada.

(b) That the Council should have power to amend its own constitution from time to time.

The schedule describes the boundaries.

MORLEY ITEMS.

A light fall of snow on Sunday.

Quite a few prairie chickens are shot around here this fall.

The Indians are off to the mountains, on their fall hunting expedition.

Prairie fires are a daily occurrence nowadays on the north side of the Bow River.

Mr. Howard K. Salsbery will be married to Miss Betty Greer on Wednesday Nov. 23rd.

Mr. Robt. Gray has been removed to Glenora where he will take charge of the section house of that place.

The postmen are making good progress with their letters along the railway, for keeping rates off the track.

Mrs. R. L. Johnson, wife of our worthy agent here at Cardston, is on a new excursion to the frontier Mr. Johnson, agent at Cardston.

Mr. George W. Widdows has been appointed agent at Cardston, in the place of Mr. Johnson.

As the day grows up now, it is expected the snow will be not down and the weather will be in the wintering time.

Maxwell's men have just finished their trip, and will be back for another trip in a few days.

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The Roman Wife.

In the early days the strictest kind of marriage conferred on the Roman wife privileges which were considerable in extent and honorable in degree. When married by the law of "conventio," and with the form of "confarreatio"—the two eating together the sacred salted cake, and she, the bride, promising to share with her husband water and fire—she was set in a place of personal dignity and moral power, and though she belonged to the community the State took care of her interests and provided for her welfare. Her legal personality was certainly merged in that of her husband, who was emphatically the master of the household; she was counted as one of his family, and was no longer under the protection of her own; but she was secure from the caprice and could not be divorced at his pleasure. Nor might she be ill used; and she was as much mistress in the house as he was master.

"Elitio Gains, ego tibia," she said to her bridegroom when she was lifted over his threshold as a reminiscence of the time when she had been won by violence and carried off by force. "Where thou art I am lady," was her half-threatening promise of a life-union. And the Roman woman was not one to use this formula to bring—nor one whose dignity of command could be easily softened or doctored by love. Bound by the double link of law and religion, the wife's legal position was that of her husband's child, but she was protected against that breath of paternal power which made the father both the law and the executive in his own household and enabled him to set his children free or to put them to death for certain offenses. She was free from the domination of her own father, and her husband was restricted. She inherited from her husband equally, but only equally, with her children, and as a daughter she shared with her brothers. Unlike the Greek heiress, who, as with the Eastern women, was something that went with the estate rather than the free holder of property—taken over as an obligation integral to the inheritance, the fixtures in the house or the stock on the farm—the Roman widow inherited on her own account, and the Roman girl endowed the man she married. This legal consideration was the reward of personal merit, and dated back to the foundation of the empire. By their refusal to leave their Roman husbands when the Roman Army came down toavenge the rape which had made their virgin wives and mother, the women saved Rome. Romulus rewarded the with honors for themselves and whole class of citizen. The curies were called by the name of the Sabine wives.

LT-Col. Irvine is at the Royal.

S. A. RAMSAY



DEALER IN—
PIANOS, ORGANS
SEWING MACHINES.

Full assortment of—
Sewing Machines always in Stock. Full line of Oil.

Needles, Etc. always on hand. Repairing

Promptly attended to.

S. A. Ramsay.

Frontier Stables

J. P. FORD

Proprietor

These stables, the most commodious in Calgary, have lately been fitted up with all the best appliances for supplying the foremost Livery and Feed accommodation to the public.

Single and Double Riggs always on Hand.

Gentlemen's and Ladies' Riding horses always ready for hire. Horses bought, sold and exchanged. Board by day, week or Month. Reliable Drivers Supplied.

1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 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The Imperial Historical Society of Russia has recently published a volume containing the correspondence of M. de Camille, Baron of France to St. Petersburg from 1722 to 1724. The immediate object of his mission was to conclude an alliance between the Duc de Chartres, son of the Regent Orleans, with the Grand Duchess Elizabeth, the Czar's youngest daughter. He was not successful in this project, but his observations on Russian life at that period are full of interest. Of the Czar Peter he says: "It is true to say of this great prince that he has accomplished prodigies, and if the interior of the greater number of his subjects has not changed, there has at least been such a metamorphosis on the surface that those who knew Russia thirty years ago, and who see what goes on there to-day, would be constrained to allow that it required a monarch as courageous as he was enlightened and laborious to produce so happy and so general a revolution. In fact, his attention to the task of making his people amenable to order, to render them useful to the State, and to carry his glory to the highest point it could reach, was infinite; nor did it require less perseverance to draw his nobility from the indifference and sloth of men in which they were sunk, and to render them fit to serve in his army on land and sea, for which they had until quite recently been considered as incapable. The knowledge which the Czar acquired in the foreign countries through which he travelled, was turned to excellent account by his genius, sustained by the solid reflections of a conscience and penetrating judgment, by a prodigious memory, by a courage which made him respect no danger, and by a consummate prudence in the execution of all his great projects which he had formed for the welfare of his State after having extended their frontiers till he had rendered them the largest realm in Europe and himself the most powerful prince of the North. What is still more extraordinary is that he owed his great intelligence to his own labors; none of his courtiers who wished to deprive him of the throne troubled about his education. In this manner has Russia, scarcely known by name before his time, become today the object of the attention of the greater number of the Powers of Europe, who seek her friendship either because they fear to see her engaged in an opposite camp, or for the advantage they expect to gain from her alliance."

Trading Rats.

Studies in natural history, calculated to excite the wonder of a young student, abound in the western regions of America. I know I was vastly entertained during a trip through Arizona and New Mexico by my own observation of the mountain rats, popularly known there as "trading rats." I used to lie awake sometimes in order to watch their pranks by the light of my campfire. Their antics and gambols reminded me of young life at a game of "tag." They look like common rats, save that they are lighter in color, their tails are shorter and thicker, and their noses are less pointed. They live in hollow trees and in the rocks.

But the very funny thing is that, though they are born thieves, little kleptomaniacs every one, they always return something in the place of every article taken away; and a queer thing, too, is the fact that they never steal articles of food. One night I felt a slight stir about my head. Cautiously opening my eyes, I saw one of these rats tugging unobtrusively at my cap, which I was using as a pillow. As the saddle was one of California style, and weighed about thirty pounds, the efforts of the little animal seemed to be very ambitious for an animal of his size. They take away cartridges, knives and forks, or anything else they can carry. I have been told by an old prospector that he had a whole outfit of such things "traded" that a stolen in one night, and that various objects were returned in its place.

Articles taken from one place have been found in a shanty twenty miles distant. I met one day at a railway station an old ranchman, who lived at least twenty miles from the road, and chancing to speak of these rats, he said: "I found in my 'shack' the other day, quite a collection of spoons, forks and knives hid under a pile of rubbish that had been brought there by the little thieves. Where they came from I don't know, but I know that they carried off in turn a whole box of 45-75 Wm. Lister cartridges."

I laughed and replied: "Well, I have your cartridges, and you probably have my spoons, for out of a dozen I have only two left. As the cartridges will not fit my Sharps 40-70, they are no use to me. So if you bring the spoons to Flinn's store I'll see that the cartridges are left there and you can get them." The change was effected in the course of a few days, and the spoons proved to be genuine and the cartridges his.

Woolen costumes are trimmed with wide and narrow galloons. There are many kinds of galloons, a favorite style being a combination of light woolen tissue and gold, silver, bronze, or steel metal. Steel is more favored than other metals. There are also mohair and velvet galloons, which are either plain or worked with silk, worsted or beads. This trimming is arranged on the lower part of the skirts in wheel shaped designs, or it forms rows one above the other. Narrow galloons serve for trimming waists, gumpers or vests, and the yokes of blouses. These galloons also form long narrow panels down the sides of the skirts, when the overdress or polonaise opens to show the trimming. Many polonaises are worn over skirts made in this manner. Some gowns the skirt is plain, and the polonaise has decorative stripes, etc. Waists in blouse style are jacketed or gathered. They produce the effect of being loose, but they are made over to the fitting costume.

The sun is a vast body one million two hundred and sixty thousand times as large and nearly three hundred and twenty seven thousand times as heavy as the earth. That which we see of it ordinarily is a white-hot central mass which is really only a part of the great globe.

Next to this there is a beautifully colored envelope from five thousand to ten thousand miles in thickness, called the chromosphere, while outside this is a comparatively dense atmosphere, or corona, stretching away for at least one hundred thousand miles, while beyond that again there is a further atmosphere consisting to a large extent of hydrogen, the lightest substance known, reaching it may be, a million miles or more farther into space. Look at the sun, shining brightly above us; it is some picture of quietude and stately grandeur. In point of fact it is something very different. There is nothing with which a man is acquainted that is in such wild confusion as the surface of the sun. Talk of startling volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and storms—the violence of all terrestrial commotions since the world was inhabited would not equal one hour's disturbance on the face of that boiling cauldron we call the sun. A cyclone on the earth's surface that whirls around at the rate of one hundred miles an hour is a hurricane carrying all before it; but there are solar whirlwinds and fiercer floods that sweep along at one hundred miles a second. An eruption of Vesuvius entombs Pompeii; but there are momentary and unceasing eruptions on the sun in which the whole earth would melt with fervent heat and be engulfed, so as to leave not a track behind except an insupportable addition to the sun's incandescent atmosphere.

A Confession at the Table.

A countryman took a seat at a hotel table opposite to a gentleman who was indulging in a bottle of wine. Supposing the wine to be common property, the unsophisticated countryman helped himself to it with the other gentleman's glass. "That's cool!" exclaimed the owner of the wine, indignantly. "Yes," said the other, "I should think there was ice in it."

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